



INDIANA *for* COMMISSION
HIGHER EDUCATION



21st Century Scholars High School Senior FAQs (Class of 2015)

A complete list of Frequently Asked Questions and more information and resources for 21st Century Scholar Seniors—including information on completing the Affirmation form and the FAFSA—can be found at the 21st Century Scholars Website: www.Scholars.IN.gov. You can also receive assistance by calling the 21st Century Scholars Help Line at (888) 528-4719.

What steps must I, as an eligible 21st Century Scholar, take to use my Scholarship?

- Submit an Affirmation form by March 10 of your senior year in high school.
- Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)) by the March 10 deadline during your senior year of high school.
- Fix any errors on your FAFSA by the May 15 deadline.
- Graduate from high school with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Maintain Indiana residency, as determined by the permanent residence of your parent or legal guardian.
- Apply to and be admitted to an eligible Indiana college, university or proprietary school as a high school senior.
- Respond to any requests for additional information from the 21st Century Scholars program, the Indiana Commission for Higher Education or your college by stated deadlines.

What does the 21st Century Scholarship cover?

The scholarship covers undergraduate tuition and regularly assessed fees at an approved public institution. The scholarship covers only a portion of the tuition and fees at a private (independent) school. At proprietary schools, the scholarship amount is the same as if the student were to attend Ivy Tech Community College. For schools which charge by the credit hour, the scholarship covers a maximum of 15 credit hours per term. All eligible institutions are in Indiana.

The scholarship does not cover the cost of books, room and board, parking fees, lab fees or any other fees assessed that are not assessed to all students, and will pay a maximum of four years (eight semesters) of tuition. Additionally, the 21st Century Scholarship must be used within eight years after the date you first enroll in college.

What if the college listed as the first choice on my FAFSA is not the school I decide to attend?

If you decide to attend any college other than the one listed as the first choice on your [FAFSA](#), you must change your first choice college selection through eStudent at www.in.gov/che/estudent.

What is eStudent?

eStudent is an online service available at www.in.gov/che/estudent for students who have filed a FAFSA as residents of the State of Indiana. The eStudent site allows you to:

- See any issues with your FAFSA that could prevent you from receiving state aid, so that you can make necessary changes.
- View your state grant award amount.
- View your state grant history.
- View your grant application which includes information from your FAFSA, your diploma type, your 21st Century Scholar status, National Guard status and school of choice.
- Update your school of choice.

Must I enroll in college immediately after high school graduation?

No. You have **one year** to begin using your award. So if you graduate in May 2015, you have until the fall 2016 semester to activate your scholarship. Remember that you must complete an Affirmation Form during your senior year and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the March 10, 2015 deadline of your senior year of high school and each subsequent year. In addition, you must be enrolled as a **full-time** student in order to receive the 21st Century Scholarship.

What happens if I decided to serve in the military, causing me to exceed the one-year requirement to begin college as a full-time student?

If you exceed the one-year requirement to begin college as a full-time college student due to active-duty service in the military you will need to submit a letter of appeal and a copy of your DD214 to:

Division of Student Financial Aid
ATTN: Appeals
402 West Washington Street, Room W462
Indianapolis, IN 46204

What if my household income changes between the time I enrolled in the 21st Century Scholars Program and the time I graduate from high school?

For current 21st Century Scholar high school seniors, an increase in household income will NOT affect a student's award amount for the 21st Century Scholarship.

Can I receive the Scholarship if I earn a GED or complete a home schooling program?

No. If you earn a GED or complete a home schooling program you are NOT eligible to receive the award. You must graduate with a diploma from an eligible high school recognized by the Indiana Department of Education (as agreed to in the Scholar Pledge).

Can I use the Scholarship if I am enrolled in college courses as a part-time student?

No. You must be enrolled as a full-time student.

I believe I may have broken the Scholar Pledge. Is it my responsibility to report this potential pledge violation to the Program?

Yes. It is the responsibility of a Scholar student and/or his/her parent to report potential pledge violations to the program, as soon as they become aware of the violation. Potential pledge violations should be reported to:

21st Century Scholars
402 West Washington Street, Room W462
Indianapolis, IN 46204

What must I do to maintain 21st Century Scholarship eligibility once I enter college?

To ensure that you remain eligible for the 21st Century Scholarship, make sure you do the following:

- File your FAFSA by March 10 every year until you graduate from college—even if you take time off.
- Complete at least 30 credits each year.
- Meet your college's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) Standards.
- Continue to honor your 21st Century Scholar Pledge.